

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 MCT-02

/061 W

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R 252111Z AUG 78

FM USINT HAVANA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2995

INFO USICA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

UNCLAS HAVANA 2574

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: SOPN NU CU

SUBJ: CUBAN MEDIA COVERAGE OF NICARAGUAN SITUATION

1. SINCE WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 23, THE TWO OFFICIAL HAVANA DAILIES-GRANMA (6 PAGES) AND JUVENTUD REBELDE (4 PAGES) HAVE GIVEN ALMOST UNPRECEDENTED COVERAGE AND SPACE TO NICARAGUAN HAPPENINGS, WHICH ARE FRONTPAGED AND PACKAGED (THE USUAL INTERNATIONAL PAGE) WITH AN EXTRAORDINARY NUMBER OF RADIOPHOTOS PLUS PRENSA LATINA CROSS-REPORTING FROM OTHER LATIN AMERICAN CAPITALS. CONSIDERING SPACE UTILIZED AND JUBILANT TONE, IT IS APPARENT THAT GOC IS WELL PLEASED WITH FENTE SANDINISTA VICTORY IN ATTACK ON NATIONAL PALACE AND HAS HIGH HOPES RE NICARAGUAN DEVELOPMENTS IN FUTURE.

2. ONLY EDITORIALIZING TO DATE APPEARED IN AUGUST 25TH GRANMA'S JUAN MARRERO COLUMN WHICH HAILED SANDINISTA VICTORY - "CARRIED OUT WITH PRECISION, SERENITY AND RESPONSIBILITY" - AS A VICTORY OF THE PEOPLE OVER A DECADES-LONG TYRANNY. "IT IS OBVIOUS," COLUMN CONTINUED, "THAT THE SOMOZA REGIME IS WEAKENING DAILY" TO THE EXTENT THAT THE REGIME CANNOT COUNT UPON THE HELP OF NORTH AMERICAN IMPERIALISTS TO PUT DOWN ITS ENEMIES. REFERRING TO PRESS CABLES QUOTING US OFFICIALS TO EFFECT THAT WASHINGTON DOESN'T WANT TO ASSOCIATE ITSELF WITH A REGIME

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THAT APPEARS TO BE LOSING ITS POWER BASE IN ORDER NOT TO PREJUDICE WASHINGTON'S POSITION WITH SUCCESSOR REGIME, GRANMA GLEEFULLY CONCLUDED, EVEN FOR WASHINGTON, SOMOZA'S DAYS ARE NUMBERED...THE SOMOZA DYNASTY WHICH IS ARMED AND AIDED, POLITICALLY AND ECONOMICALLY, BY YANKEE IMPERIALISM".

LANE

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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